



Kangaroo Inn



Area School

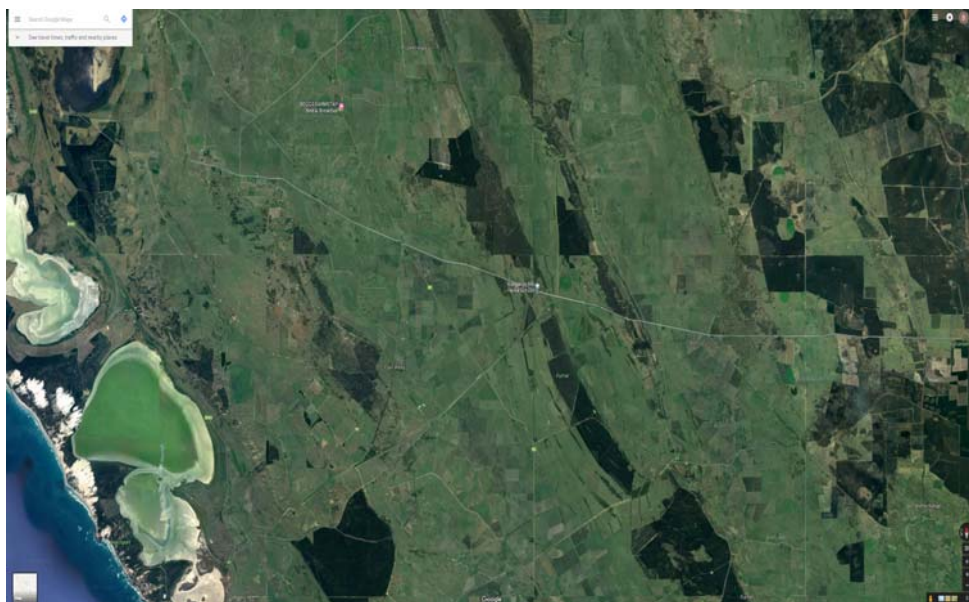
Kangaroo Inn Community Area Plan



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Aerial map of the Kangaroo Inn Area and the surrounding areas.



Aerial view of the Kangaroo Inn Area School



Members of the 2018 Student Representative Committee who facilitated the evening community meeting.

Executive Summary and History

This plan has been developed by the Student Representative Council (SRC), students, staff & friends of the Kangaroo Inn Area School with assistance from the Wattle Range Council.

The SRC members have consulted with the students, staff, families and the wider Kangaroo Inn community to seek input for this plan and develop priorities.

The plan will provide direction for the future development of the Kangaroo Inn district, Kangaroo Inn Area School and the local community.

Indigenous history

According to Christina Smith in her 1880 book on the Bungandidj - *The Boandik Tribe of South Australian Aborigines: A Sketch of Their Habits, Customs, Legends, and Language* -

"The aborigines of the South-East were divided into five tribes, each occupying its own territory and using different dialects of the same language. Their names were *Booandik*, *Pinejunga*, *Mootatunga*, *Wichintunga*, and *Polinjunga*."

The largest clan, according to Smith, was the Bungandidj who occupied country from the mouth of the Glenelg River to Rivoli Bay North (Beachport), extending inland for about 30 miles (48 km). Some controversy exists as to which tribe, the Buungandidj or Meintang, occupied the stretch of land between Rivoli Bay and Cape Jaffa, and in particular which of the two was in possession of the Woakwine Range. The other clans occupied country from between Lacepede Bay to Bordertown. The Bungandidj shared tribal borders with the Ngarrindjeri people of the Coorong and Murray mouth to the west, the Bindjali and Jardwadjali to the north and the Gunditjmara people to the east.

The southerly groups appeared to have a migratory cycle consisting of setting up camps for fishing in the south over the warmer seasons, and then, with the onset of winter, leaving the stormy coasts to hunt and fish inland.

The territory of not only the Bungandidj but also their neighbours the Meintang, has been revealed, by archaeological explorations, to have been inhabited for some 30,000 years. Coastal occupation around the Robe and Cape Banks attests that habitation from, at a low estimate, 5,800 BP.

First contact between the Bungandidj and Europeans occurred in the early 1820s. Panchy from the Bungandidj recounted to Christina Smith the story of the first sighting of ships at Rivoli Bay in either 1822 or 1823, and his mother's abduction for 3 months before she was able to escape when the ship put in at Guichen Bay.

When Governor George Grey led an expedition of surveyors, overland from Adelaide to Mt Gambier during April–May 1844, the diarist and painter George French Angas who accompanied them, noted that they found, from Woakwine Range onwards, numerous native tracks, and old encampments with abandoned wurlies, and heaps of banksia cones, which were used to make sweet drinks, mud weirs in swamps to catch fish, wicker-work traps to snare birds, and raised platform structures for spotting emus and kangaroos to hunt.

(Wikipedia – July 2018)

Settlement

Contrary to popular belief, the Kangaroo Inn was not built until 1860. It does not feature on the 1859 survey of the Gillap Station homestead block on which it stands. However, between the soon-to-be site of the Kangaroo Inn and the Gillap homestead built c.1852 stood 'Lock's Eating House', shown on the survey and probably a ramshackle affair.

The Kangaroo Inn, on the road from Mount Gambier to Guichen Bay (Robe Town) and also connected by a rough track to Penola, was built of local limestone. The spacing of the cookhouse purlins indicate a shingle roof originally. With the help of Gillap Station manager, Keith Taylor, Kangaroo Inn Area School teachers and students rediscovered and restored a lined well.

Well known publican, John McDonald, took out the first license for the Kangaroo Inn, gazetted in January 1861.

The inn would have been used by general travelers, surveyors, station people, drovers and bullockies and Guichen Bay police journals record the inn as being one of the overnight stops for mounted constables escorting prisoners to the District Court sessions in Mount Gambier. The diary of William Milne, Commissioner of Public Works, edited by Peter Rymill, remarks on the 'good dinner served in excellent style' at the inn, 'with coffee afterwards', when Milne, Goyder, the Surveyor General, and Hanson, together with their unnamed driver, were on a tour of inspection of the South East. There is mention of John McDonald and his 'pleasant looking wife' (Ann).

Chinese gold seekers at the tail end of the landings at Robe are likely to have passed by in 1862 and 1863.

In December 1863 a stockman, William Phillips, who had been gored by a bullock, died at the inn, but the site of his nearby grave has long been lost.

Licensees who followed John McDonald were Aaron Lane, 1868-1872, John McIntyre, 1872, John F. White, 1873-1875, and Richard Sargent, 1876-1878. Sargent was also appointed postmaster and from 1877 to 1878 the mail coach run between Robe and Millicent was re-routed via the Kangaroo Inn in response to a petition. July 1878 saw the coastal mail service through Beachport re-instated. The inn's license expired in 1878. George Kershaw attempted to renew the license in 1882, proposing a new inn, but to no avail, the inn being considered in too close proximity to the navies working on Reedy Creek. Archibald Grant subsequently kept the Kangaroo Inn as an unlicensed accommodation house for three years. He opened the Kintore Hotel at Furner in 1890.

When the extensive Gillap pastoral lease was broken up, in 1888 long-time station manager, Neil McDonald (no relation to John McDonald), acquired the homestead block and converted the Kangaroo Inn's stable block to a woolshed, also installing a sheep dip which can be found close by. He used the accommodation wing to house station overseers and others, but by 1906 it was observed to be 'deserted'. Thereafter the old inn served as a camp for timber getters and rabbiters.

Until the 1940s, communal sheep yards existed near the inn. Known as the Kilmore Yards they point to the inn possibly having been called Kilmore at one time, although it never appears to have been gazetted as such.

In 1978 vandals brought down the greater part of the wall of the stable block incorporating the shearing portholes and the 1983 bushfires wiped out two cherry trees, remnants of the original

orchard. Kangaroo Inn ruins were entered on the State Heritage Register in 1988.

The Andre family, current owners of the site as descendants of Neil McDonald, commissioned W. & M.J. White of Naracoorte to stabilize the ruins in 2002-2003 in line with advice from Heritage Advisor, Richard Woods. Roger Andre, who had unveiled a plaque during the Australian Stock Horse Society's Mail Coach Re-enactment run in 1990, obtained a State Heritage Fund grant towards the project.

Sources

Surveyor General's Office, Thomas Evans, Survey of Section 2, January 1859, Field Book 52, pages 141 & 143.

William Milne, *Notes on a journey to the south eastern district, January 1863*, Peter Rymill, ed., P. Rymill, Coonawarra, S. Aust., 2010, p. 35.

Border Watch, 11 December 1863, p.2, 18 December 1863, p.3.

Alan Jones & Karen Cameron, *Her Majesty's south eastern mails*, A. Jones, Unley, S. Aust., 1999, pp. 138-139.

The tourist's road guide, W.K. Thomas & Co., Adelaide, 1906.

Mount Gambier Licensing Branch minutes, 1875 – 1890, State Records of SA, GRG 67/38.

'Mount Gambier Licensing Bench annual meeting', *Border Watch*, 5 March 1890, p.3.

Note - James Wilfred Andre of Ceres, diaries 1930-1945, use the spelling 'Kilmore' for the yards at Kangaroo Inn.

Location

Kangaroo Inn is centrally located between Penola and Robe on the route to the Coonawarra wine district and within close proximity to stunning, pristine beaches in Beachport and Robe, new wine regions and historic landmarks with a rich Indigenous, natural history. The second biggest city in South Australia, Mount Gambier, is just over an hour away.

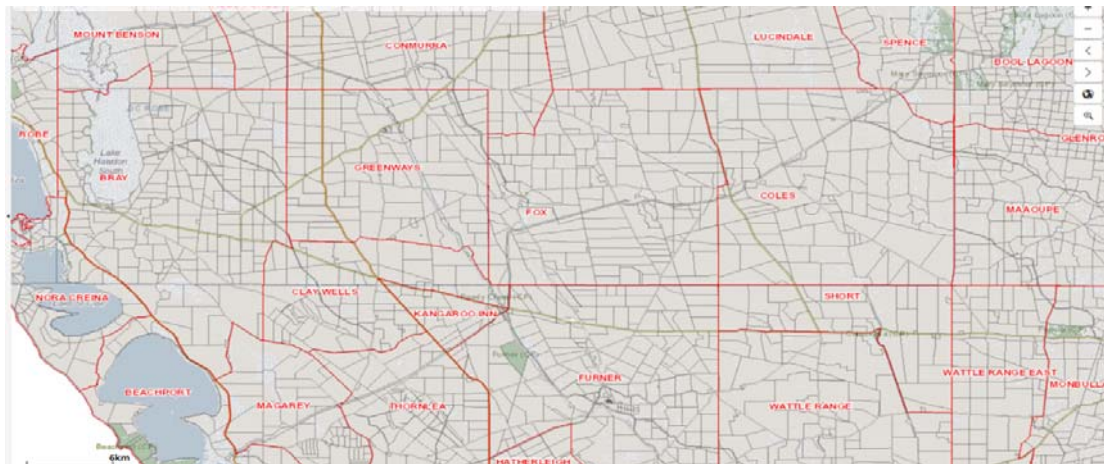
Kangaroo Inn is a landmark based around the historic Cobb and Co Inn ruin and home to Kangaroo Inn Area School. The local industries consist of beef, wool, blue gums, cropping and flower farms with other small innovative farm-based businesses emerging.

Kangaroo Inn Today

Kangaroo Inn is a quiet rural community nestled in native suburb and surrounded by rich soils, wildlife and supportive, caring residents.

Population and Employment

In the 2016 Census, there were no people registered in the Kangaroo Inn area, however, in the surrounding areas there were the following numbers of people:

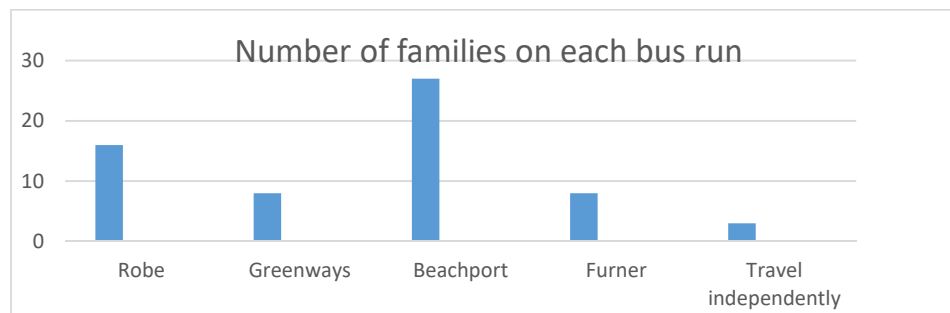


- Bray 52
- Claywells 27
- Magarey 12
- Short 11
- Thornlea 40
- Wattle Range 72
- Wattle Range East 19

It is children who are resident in these areas and others such as Furner and Beachport that are students at the Kangaroo Inn Area School.

School data

There are 62 families attending Kangaroo Inn Area School.



Services within the local area

Many residents are employed in local towns including Beachport, Robe and Millicent or work in industries in the local area.

Country Fire Service

The Country Fire Service (CFS) operate across the area and include fire crews at Furner, Greenways, Thornlea and Bray.



The Furner CFS is part of the Wattle Range Group. The brigade responds to natural disasters (storm damage/flooding); fires other (car, rubbish and other fires) and rural fires (grass fires and bush fires). It has a variety of specialist equipment including chain saws, firefighting foam, and quick fill pump. The response area includes agricultural crops, grasslands and rural areas.



The Greenways CFS is part of the Robe Group. The brigade responds to natural disasters (storm damage/flooding); fires other (car, rubbish and other fires) and rural fires (grass fires and bush fires). The specialist equipment is 80 Litres of firefighting foam. The response area includes agricultural crops, grasslands, rural areas, towns & urban areas.



The Thornlea CFS is part of the Wattle Range Group. The brigade responds to natural disasters (storm damage/flooding); fires other (car, rubbish and other fires) and rural fires (grass fires and bush fires). The specialist equipment includes 80 Litres of firefighting foam & chainsaw. The response area includes rural areas such as general rural environments.



The Bray CFS is part of the Robe Group. The brigade responds to natural disasters (storm damage/flooding); fires other (car, rubbish and other fires) and rural fires (grass fires and bush fires). The specialist equipment is 80 Litres of firefighting foam. The response area includes agricultural crops, grasslands, orchard/viticultural and rural areas.

Community Facilities

Local community halls at Furner and Bray provide places for the community to meet and school / community social events and often open to all in the local area.

Kangaroo Inn Area School

Kangaroo Inn Area School was opened in 1963 to meet the educational needs of students in the local area. It is a vibrant, innovative rural school located between Beachport, Penola and Robe. Students travel by bus from rural farms and small towns, located up to 50 km away to access their education. There is an enrolment of 96 students from Preschool to Year 12 from 62 families.



Kangaroo Inn Area School is very family orientated with 40% of the students having inter-generational attendance at KIAS, leading to a strong sense of loyalty and local support for the

school. The Kangaroo Inn Preschool offers a Learning Together and a supported Learning Program for 3-year olds. The school site is the location for the Child Care on Wheels – Mobile Childcare service one day a week.

Community involvement is strong with families involved in various school / community partnerships including Governing Council, Social Committee, Finance Committee, Agricultural partnerships and community events.

Opportunities for students include access to VET subjects (Food and Hospitality, Rural Operations and Health Studies), TAFE subjects, Agricultural studies, Chinese lessons, music lessons and specialist SACE subjects. The staff identify and support students to access individual pathways in their secondary studies whether academic to further study, apprenticeships and trainee-ships or local employment. They are especially proud of the SACE Completion rate of 100% over the last 7 years and the success our Year 12 students have achieved as we see an increase in A and B grades in SACE studies.

The learning program has a strong focus on sustainability through inquiry and solving real-life problems. The Boomerang Bag project is a great example of cross curricula planning to support issues in the community. The students explored the dangers of plastics in the environment in Science, made shopping bags from repurposed materials (ties and pillowcases) in Home Economics and built stands for the new bags in design and technology which are located in local supermarkets.

Surrounded by gum trees and regularly visited by native animals including kangaroos, echidnas and varied bird life, Kangaroo Inn Area School's geographical isolation adds to its rural charm. The community is strong and resilient, friendly and welcoming.

The 2018 Kangaroo Inn Area School External School Review concluded that, ***“Parents and governing council members were very appreciative of and acknowledged the school’s commitment to ensuring that students at Kangaroo Inn Area School are not limited by location or size. The school has displayed a clear commitment to continual improvement within a strong culture of acceptance and care.”***

The KIAS motto, Strive for Life, underpins all site actions and leads the school into the future positively and successfully as they develop 21st century learners.

Why the need for an Area Plan?

The idea of a *Kangaroo Inn Community Area Plan* arose out of initial general discussions between Wattle Range Council staff and the Kangaroo Inn School. Essentially, the *Kangaroo Inn Community Area Plan* provides:

- An opportunity to articulate the issues that are important to Kangaroo Inn based residents
- A clear blueprint for the future development of the Kangaroo Inn area and the surrounding region
- A basis to attract local, state, and potentially, federal funding to help achieve identified community priorities and projects
- A more coordinated approach for the social, cultural and economic development of the area and surrounding enterprises
- An opportunity to enhance the reputation of Kangaroo Inn as a tourism destination.

- Farm stays
- Music lessons
- Tourism
- Access to local sporting facilities
- Agriculture contracting
- Close to medical facilities & hospitals
- Honey
- Photography
- Fencing
- Shearing
- TAFE and VET courses

Who do we need to attract to Kangaroo Inn?

- Walking Trails
 - Trades people
 - Businesses
 - Tourism enterprises
 - Industry
 - Events / festivals
 - Volunteers to help with sport and recreational clubs
 - Fish sales outlet for KIAS fish
-

Marketing & Promotion

At present there is a social media presence and websites from:

- Kangaroo Inn Area School
- Local businesses
 - Farming enterprises
 - Home based businesses
 - Cattle/sheep stud pages
 - Flower farm advertisement

Other promotion occurs through:

- School
 - Strong print media coverage
 - School stream
 - Facebook page

- School newsletter
- Coastal Leader
- SE Times
- Signs

What we could do in the future:

- Encourage the use of a local area hashtag on Facebook, Instagram and other social media – it's a simple and free way to promote tourism (such as #KangarooInn)
- Facebook, Instagram and website for local area – combine with other areas such as Furner
- Insta frames and Snapchat Geofilter
- Youtube videos
- Blog
- Utilisation of Facebook stories
- Signs on trucks

Look and Feel of Kangaroo Inn – What do we need to make the area look and feel better?

Time Line: A = 1-2 years B= 3-4 years C=5-8 years D= 9-12 years E=13-17 years F= 17-20 years

Time Line	Project	Working Groups	Other Comments
A	Mowing verges more regularly		
A	Promoting school through signage on main road and near to school	KIAS & Education Department	
A	School bus signage e.g. slow down signs	WRC, KIAS, Education Department	
B	Maintaining area around the Inn e.g. spraying / mowing etc.		
C	Good internet access across area and at school	Education Department, KIAS, service providers	Advocacy role by Council

Social Media and Kangaroo Inn Advertising & Promotion

Time Line: A = 1-2 years B= 3-4 years C=5-8 years D= 9-12 years E=13-17 years F= 17-20 years

Time Line	Project	Working Groups	Other Comments
A	Kangaroo Inn website to include local businesses, services, geocaching links, snapchat stories	Students	
A	Photography of local area	Students	
A	Facebook page	Students	
A	Google Maps – Add Ruins and actual point of roads		School project
B	Advertising school and area on truck sides or bus sides	KIAS & local transport operators	Advocacy role by Council
B	Post Cards		School project
B	Lights on the Inn	KIAS, WRC & South Australian Tourism Commission	
B	Light and Sound show at the Inn	KIAS, WRC & SATC (Tourism Commission)	

Kangaroo Inn Celebrations & Events - What we would like to have ?

Time Line: A = 1-2 years B= 3-4 years C=5-8 years D= 9-12 years E=13-17 years F= 17-20 years

Time Line	Project	Working Groups	Other Comments
B	Motocross day / 4wd track / buggy track	Limestone Coast Tourism, WRC, KIAS	
A	Sports teams / sporting events	KIAS	
A	Porch session – Music	WRC & KIAS	Council advocates with organisers for future events
A	Seafood Night – based on Aquaculture program produce with the school and community hosting	KIAS & seafood industry	
A	Food van night	KIAS	WRC to put together a list of known food caterers
C	Movie night	KIAS	
	Rural Round – Hatherleigh vs Robe at school oval		
	Glow in the Dark mushrooms at Furner Quarry – like the Glencoe ones	DEW, Forestry SA & WRC	Development of a trail similar to the Glencoe Ghost Mushrooms Lane
	Open Mike night		
	Food and music festival		
	Art exhibition		
	Astronomy night		
	Drive in movie		
	Community garage sale		
	Comedy Club		
	Ride On lawn mowers race		
	Community bonfire		
	Farmer's Market		
	Car boot sale on oval		

Kangaroo Inn Assets & Infrastructure – What needs to be done in local area?

Time Line: A = 1-2 years B= 3-4 years C=5-8 years D= 9-12 years E=13-17 years F= 17-20 years

Time Line	Project	Working Groups	Other Comments
A	Inn and Post office tree maintained	National Trust & property owners	
B	Roads – speed limits altered due to state of roads / safer roads	WRC & School community	Review of road speeds to be undertaken
B	Informative signage to attract visitors e.g. Inn, Chinese history	LC Tourism, LC LGA, Tourism & WRC	
C	BIG nature play area to encourage visitors to stop and enjoy	Education Department	Education Department if to be on school property
	Canteen / café	KIAS	
	Fish smokehouse	KIAS/PIRSA	
B	Lights on the Inn	KIAS, WRC & South Australian Tourism Commission,	
B	Cycling and walking tracks	Trails SA , DEW & LCLGA tourism	
B	Information bay and shelter for community to gather with history and information about the Inn and surrounds	WRC & LCLGA Tourism	In conjunction with LC Tourism
B	Recycling depot or bins available to the community.	Community & Council	
	Opportunities for kids to stay in local area and gain skills e.g. agriculture, tourism,	TAFE & Education Department	

Kangaroo Inn Community Projects – What else?

Time Line: A = 1-2 years B= 3-4 years C=5-8 years D= 9-12 years E=13-17 years F= 17-20 years

Time Line	Project	Working Groups	Other Comments
A	History Trail between Robe and Penola e.g. treasure hunt encourage people to drive out find answers and browse along the way.	LC Tourism, geocaching & DEW	Potential link to geocaching & attempt to involve in Geocache Mega WRC event in 2020
B	Bush walking tracks		
	Field Day		

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